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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #0395 0450249  
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1736  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 6091  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 8484  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 4678  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 6694  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9760  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1665  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2121  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7734  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 8354  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - EAST TIMOR

11. LEAD STORIES: Several Thursday morning papers front-paged the announcement by the Financial Services Agency that the total losses incurred by Japanese financial institutions from the subprime loan crisis came to about 600 billion yen as of the end of last year. Ambassador Schieffer's separate meetings on Wednesday with Foreign Minister Koumura and Okinawa Governor Nakaima on the alleged sexual assault by an Okinawa-based Marine also received front-page coverage.

12. "Attack Reflects Difficulty toward True Independence" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (2/14): "East Timor President Horta was wounded in an assassination attempt at home. The shooting came despite the continuing UN peacekeeping operation in the country. The international community must step up its engagement in the country, which is still at an early stage of nation-building.... Given that domestic security is closely related to the state of the economy, the international community should take note that police activities alone are not enough to improve the situation in East Timor. Japan in particular needs to help that country increase its industrial output and promote employment."

SCHIEFFER